



PATENT

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December 23, 2003
Date

T. Miller
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Vishnu K. Agarwal

Attorney Docket No. : 501082.06

Serial No. : 09/652,842

Group Art Unit : 2825

Filed : August 31, 2000

Examiner : Belur V. Keshavan

Confirmation No. : 4065

Date of Notice
of Allowance : September 24, 2003

Title : DEVICE AND METHOD FOR PROTECTING AGAINST OXIDATION OF A
CONDUCTIVE LAYER IN SAID DEVICE

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS
FOR ALLOWANCE**

Sir:

While the combinations of elements recited in the allowed claims are allowable, the undersigned would like to point out that some or all of these individual elements may be broadened such that the resulting combination is still patentable. Applicant may elect to pursue such claims, or to pursue claims directed to other aspects of the present invention, through a continuation or reissue application, or through a reexamination proceeding.

Respectfully submitted,
DORSEY & WHITNEY LLP

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SHA:dms

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